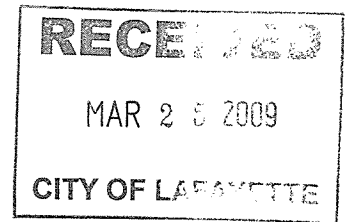


March 15, 2009

Don Tatzin, Mayor
City of Lafayette
3675 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette, CA 94569



Dear Mayor Tatzin,

Programs:

Rape Crisis Center
of Contra Costa and Marin

Stepping Stones
Counseling Center

Children's Interview Center

Prevention Services

Sexual Assault Response
Team (SART)

Contact Information:

**West/Central Contra Costa
& Main Office**
2101 Van Ness Street
San Pablo, CA 94806
510-237-0113
510-237-0177 FAX

East Contra Costa
301 W. 10th Street, Suite 3
Antioch, CA 94509
925-706-4290

Marin
734 A Street, Suite 3
San Rafael, CA 94901
415-259-2850

Other Locations:

Martinez
Concord
Pittsburg

24-Hour Crisis Line
800-670-7273 (RAPE)

E-mail:
admin@cvsolutions.org

Website:
www.cvsolutions.org
www.TeenCVS.org

As a leader of our community, we ask you to lend your voice to the cause of ending sexual assault we "Speak Out Against Sexual Violence" during April's Sexual Assault Awareness Month. This special month, recognized in California and across the United States, provides an excellent opportunity for Contra Costa County to work towards ending sexual violence

Community Violence Solutions would be honored if you sponsored an official Proclamation to recognize April as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" in your city. Such a proclamation will emphasize your commitment to this important cause and recognize the efforts of those individuals who work to end violence and provide crucial services to sexual assault survivors, victims and their families. The national theme is *Prevent Sexual Violence in our Workplaces*. All forms of sexual violence result in high cost for businesses and the economy. Sexual violence on the job correlates with decreased productivity, higher rates of absenteeism and lower employee morale. Interrupted work, because of sexual violence can also jeopardize the economic stability of individuals, families, and communities. Economic insecurity can lead to greater dependence on public assistance program and poor outcomes for families and society.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. A sample proclamation is enclosed. A version can also be e-mailed if you prefer. Please contact Cynthia Peterson (510) 307-4121. If you have any questions about Sexual Assault Awareness Month or this Proclamation. We appreciate your support and commitment to end sexual assault.

This year Community Violence Solutions will be holding a fundraiser in Marin County, on March 28-29, 2009 at the Corte Madera Towne Center. Please see the attached flyer.

Sincerely


Rhonda James, MA
Executive Director



PROCLAMATION

CITY COUNCIL

Don Tatzin, Mayor
Brandt Andersson, Vice Mayor
Mike Anderson, Council Member
Carl Anduri, Council Member
Carol Federighi, Council Member

WHEREAS, in California there were 9,047 forcible rapes in 2007 and 197 forcible rapes reported in Contra Costa County in the same year with an increasing number affecting adolescents; and

WHEREAS, sexual assault affects every person of Lafayette as a victim/survivor or as a family member, significant other, neighbor or co-worker of a victim/survivor; and

WHEREAS, many citizens of Lafayette are working to provide quality services and assistance to sexual assault survivors; and dedicated volunteers help staff 24-hour hotlines, respond to emergency calls and offer support, comfort and advocacy during medical exams, criminal proceedings and throughout the healing process; and

WHEREAS, staff and volunteers of Community Violence Solutions and its Rape Crisis Center, Children's Interview Center and prevention programs in Lafayette are promoting education by offering training to schools, churches and civic organizations, as well as medical, mental health, law enforcement, education and criminal justice personnel regarding sexual assault issues; and

WHEREAS, it is vitally important that continued educational efforts to provide information about prevention and services for sexual assault be supported and enhanced; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to intensify public awareness of sexual assault, to educate people about the need for citizen involvement in efforts to reduce sexual violence, to increase support for agencies providing sexual assault services and to increase awareness of the healing power of creative expression; and

WHEREAS, Community Violence Solutions requests public support and assistance as it continues to work toward a society where all women, children and men can live in peace, free from violence and exploitation.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that on behalf of the Lafayette City Council I do hereby proclaim the month of April as **Sexual Assault Awareness Month**.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the City of Lafayette this 13th day of April, 2009.

Don Tatzin, Mayor